



KIM JOHNSON
DIRECTOR

STATE OF CALIFORNIA—HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
744 P Street • Sacramento, CA 95814 • www.cdss.ca.gov



GAVIN NEWSOM
GOVERNOR

January 6, 2022

TO: IN-HOME SUPPORTIVE SERVICES (IHSS) AND WAIVER
PERSONAL CARE SERVICES (WPCS) RECIPIENTS

SUBJECT: COVID-19 VACCINE REQUIREMENTS FOR IHSS/WPCS
PROVIDERS

You are receiving this letter because the new Public Health Order issued on December 22, 2021 requires certain In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) and Waiver Personal Care Services (WPCS) providers to be **fully vaccinated and boosted** with the COVID-19 vaccine as described in the chart below.

Type of Vaccine	When to Get Booster Dose
Moderna or Pfizer	6 months after 2 nd dose
Johnson & Johnson or Janssen	2 months after 1 st dose

The Public Health Order states those eligible for the vaccine booster must obtain the shot by February 1, 2022. IHSS providers not yet eligible for boosters must get their shot no later than 15 days after the recommended timeframe above for receiving the booster dose. Providers who live with their recipient(s) and/or provide services to a recipient(s) who is a family member(s), and provide services to no one else, are not impacted by this Public Health Order.

Your provider must get vaccinated if they are not related to you and/or do not live with you. By receiving this letter, one or more of your providers has been identified by the California Department of Social Services as a provider who is required to be vaccinated.

Your provider may request an exemption from the vaccine requirement for a Qualified Medical Reason or Religious Beliefs. In order to get this exemption, your provider must provide you the completed *COVID-19 Vaccination Exemption Form* (attached) stating they are not going to get vaccinated and identify the reason. To get an exemption for a Qualified Medical Reason, they must provide a note from their doctor, nurse practitioner, or other licensed medical professional stating that they qualify for the medical exemption. If you think your provider is exempt from the COVID-19 vaccination requirement, then they must get tested weekly for COVID-19 and wear a surgical mask or higher-level respirator, at all times while providing services in your home.

Your provider must keep their own records of vaccination, or COVID-19 test results if applicable, and must provide them to you if you ask them for it. Please note, if your provider tests positive for COVID-19, they should not be providing IHSS/WPCS services. Please continue to follow the guidelines to prevent yourself from getting COVID-19 and contact your local county IHSS office, In-Home Operations office, or public authority for help finding a provider during your provider's absence.